Document 455-1

#: 22407

John G. Balestriere

## **BALESTRIERE FARIELLO**

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

AMY MOORE, MIA LYTELL, NATASHA TAGAI, EMMA HOPPER, BRITTANY HASSEN and BRITTANY REYES,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

HOWARD RUBIN,

Defendant.

Case No.: 1:17-cv-06404-BMC

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN G. **BALESTRIERE IN SUPPORT OF BALESTRIERE FARIELLO'S** MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

STATE OF NEW YORK s.s.: COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

I, John G. Balestriere, an attorney duly admitted to practice law in the Eastern District of New York, of legal age and under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, declare the following:

1. I am an attorney at the law firm Balestriere Fariello (the "Firm," or "Plaintiffs' Counsel"). I represent Plaintiffs Amy Moore ("Moore"), Mia Lytell ("Lytell"), Natasha Tagai ("Tagai"), Emma Hopper ("Hopper"), Brittany Hassen ("Hassen"), and Brittany Reyes ("Reyes") (collectively, "Plaintiffs") in the above-referenced action against Defendant Howard Rubin ("Rubin").

- 2. I am fully familiar with the facts stated herein and make this affidavit in support of my motion to withdraw as counsel to the Plaintiffs.
- 3. The law firm Balestriere Fariello is in dissolution and has terminated its operations. Due to an ongoing dispute with a litigation funder, Pravati Capital, LLC, and related economic circumstances from that dispute, I will not be able to continue with this case.
- 4. I have communicated this to the Plaintiffs, including their right to counsel of their choosing, and that I am moving to withdraw for the reason of the dissolution of Balestriere Fariello and no other reason.
  - 5. Balestriere Fariello maintains a charging lien.
- 6. I respectfully request a stay of at least 30 days for Plaintiffs to obtain new counsel.
- 7. Plaintiffs respectfully request the opportunity to appear before the Court regarding this motion and the request for a stay in this case.

Dated: New York, New York

August 21, 2024

By:

Document 455-1 #: 22409

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Sworn to before me this 218 day of August, 2024

Notary Public

ÉLKE HOFMÁNN
Registration #02H06176688
Qualified in Kings County
My Commission Expires
April 27, 2024